

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 10, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 11, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 970

Introduced by Senator Corbett
(Coauthor: Senator Hancock)

February 5, 2010

An act to add and repeal Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 970, as amended, Corbett. Preelection day voting.

Existing law generally requires voters who wish to vote and who do not cast their ballots by mail to cast their ballot at the precinct polling place on election day.

This bill would permit, until December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the county elections officials, *the University of California*, and *the California State University*, to select 2 college campuses, one within the University of California and one within the California State University, to each serve as preelection day polling places for any precinct in the county's jurisdiction during at least one general election. The bill would require voluntary consent from the local elections official within whose jurisdiction a preelection day voting polling place would be located for preelection day voting to take place in that jurisdiction. The bill would require that the preelection day

polling places be open to receive votes on the 5 business days preceding election day. The bill would require each county elections official who has a preelection day polling place within his or her jurisdiction during an election to report to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the use of the preelection day voting polling place within 6 months of the date of the election. The Secretary of State would then be required to report to the Legislature regarding an assessment of early voting on college campuses by examining the participation in the program and the costs to the state for implementing the program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) There is a correlation between preelection day voting and
4 higher instances of voter turnout.

5 (b) Preelection day voting on college campuses will allow
6 college students more time to vote and thereby more effectively
7 manage their busy class schedules.

8 (c) Research findings show that the younger a voter becomes
9 engaged in the political process, the more likely he or she will
10 remain an active participant in our democratic system of
11 government.

12 SEC. 2. Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) is added
13 to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, to read:

14
15 Article 6. Preelection Day Voting Polling Places on College
16 Campuses
17

18 12290. (a) For at least one general election from January 1,
19 2011, but prior to December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in
20 conjunction with the county elections officials, *the University of*
21 *California, and the California State University*, may establish
22 preelection day voting polling places on two college campuses in
23 the state, subject to the following conditions:

24 (1) One of the college campuses shall be within the University
25 of California. The campus selected must have at least 20,000
26 registered students at the time of selection.

1 (2) One of the college campuses shall be within the California
2 State University. The campus selected must have at least 13,000
3 registered students at the time of selection.

4 (3) Preelection day voting shall not take place absent the
5 voluntary consent of the local elections official within whose
6 jurisdiction a preelection day voting polling place would be located.

7 (b) Each college campus selected to be a preelection day voting
8 polling place shall serve as the polling place for any precinct in
9 the county's jurisdiction.

10 12291. A preelection day voting polling place established
11 pursuant to Section 12290 shall be open during the five business
12 days prior to the date of the election. For each day that the
13 preelection day voting polling place is open to receive votes prior
14 to the date of the election, the provisions of Chapter 1 (commencing
15 with Section 14000), Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 14100),
16 and Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 14200) of Division 14,
17 except Section 14212, shall apply.

18 12292. A preelection day voting polling place may not be
19 established for any election other than a general election as it
20 applies to the pilot program in this article.

21 12293. (a) Each county elections official who has a preelection
22 day voting polling place within his or her jurisdiction during an
23 election shall report to the Legislature and the Secretary of State
24 regarding the election within six months after the date of the
25 election as it applies to the pilot program in this article. This report
26 shall include, at a minimum, statistics regarding the cost of a
27 preelection day voting polling place, the turnout of voters at the
28 preelection day voting polling place, and any problems with
29 preelection day voting polling place voting that has been made
30 known to the elections official.

31 (b) After receiving the reports from the county elections officials
32 pursuant to subdivision (a) but not later than eight months after
33 the date of the election, the Secretary of State shall report to the
34 Legislature regarding an assessment of early voting on college
35 campuses by examining the participation in the program as well
36 as the costs to the state for implementing this article on these two
37 campuses.

38 12294. This article shall remain in effect only until December
39 31, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted

- 1 statute, that is enacted before December 31, 2016, deletes or
- 2 extends that date.

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